

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 SY-05 OPR-02 IO-14 DHA-05 DIWY-01 EURE-00
/097 W

-----129481 071526Z /40

P R 071412Z SEP 77
FM AMCONSUL BELFAST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1766
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BELFAST 280

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, CASC, PINT, UK, EI
SUBJECT: PROTEST DEMONSTRATION ON U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

REF: BELFAST 207

1. THE RELATIVES ACTION COUNCIL (RAC - REFTEL) MOUNTED A SMALL PROTEST BEFORE THE CONGEN AT NOON SEPTEMBER 7. A DOZEN OR SO PEOPLE - MOSTLY WOMEN - PICKETED. THEY CARRIED A BANNER CONTRASTING PRESIDENT CARTER'S CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE USSR WITH HIS SUPPOSED DISINTEREST IN THE N.I. SITUATION. THE BANNER'S CONCLUDING LINE READ: "AREN'T THE IRISH HUMAN, PRESIDENT CARTER?" THREE OF THE WOMEN (TWO YOUNG ONES WRAPPED IN BLANKETS) PRESENTED TO THE CONSUL GENERAL A MIMEOGRAPHED LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT ASKING HIM TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE "BRUTAL VIOLATION" OF HUMAN RIGHTS "BEING PERPETRATED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN IRELAND." THE LETTER WAS KEYED TO THE "HYPOCRISY" OF THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT STATEMENT ON N.I. COPIES ARE BEING POUCHED TO EUR/NE AND INFO ADDRESSEES.

2. COMMENT: THE PROTEST WAS ENTIRELY PEACEFUL. IN CONTRAST TO THE RAC'S OCCUPATION OF THE CG OFFICE JUNE 16 (REFTEL), THERE
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WAS NO HINT OF DISTURBANCE. THE POLITICAL MOTIVATION WAS EVIDENT, ALTHOUGH THE SPOKESWOMAN DESCRIBED THE RAC AS NONPOLITICAL. WE ASSUME THE RAC (AND ITS POLITICAL BACKERS) WAS INTERESTED IN PUBLICITY: A PHOTOGRAPHER COVERED THE PICKETING, AND THE BBC WAS INFORMED BEFOREHAND.

3. ONE OF THE YOUNG WOMEN SAID THAT THE BLANKETS SHE AND HER

COMPANION WORE SYMBOLISED THE "POLITICAL PRISONERS" WHO WERE CONFINED IN COLD CELLS "NAKED EXCEPT FOR A THIN BLANKET." THE REFERENCE IS TO PERSONS CONVICTED OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENT CRIMES OR ARMS VIOLATIONS WHO INSIST ON RECOGNITION OF A SPECIAL STATUS IN PRISON AND REFUSE TO ABIDE BY REGULAR RULES -- E.G., NOT WEARING PRISON GARB.

4. DUBLIN'S IRISH TIMES REPORTED SIMILAR DEMONSTRATIONS IN DUBLIN AND LONDON SEPTEMBER 5.

STOUT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Litigation History:
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